

Appendix C

Comments on Recommendations

A. A familiarization trip should be a required step in the training of any geographic analyst. To be of value the trip must take the analyst through landscapes that are typical of the different regions of his area. He should visit the principal cities, but should not confine himself to them. It would be desirable for such trips to be repeated at intervals of four or five years.

25X1A6a B. A considerable amount of ignorance was found on the part of [redacted] regarding the functions, capabilities, or even the existence of the Geographic Area. Because of distance and lack of adequate liaison between the operating and the intelligence production parts of the Agency in Washington, this Division does not have access to much valuable intelligence material originating in the field. The viewpoints [redacted] regarding local problems would often be of value in the preparation of studies by this Division. A geographic analyst assigned to a field office might be able to expedite the flow of intelligence materials to the Division and make field personnel aware of the capabilities of the Geographic Area. At the same time he would be in a position to perform valuable services for the field offices.

25X1A6a C. A familiarization trip might be so arranged that the analyst could gather material for a current project. This would be of great value in the preparation of escape and evasion and border studies, for instance, especially if the analyst has never been in the area before. Such an approach would also give the analyst a clearer point of focus in discussions with busy field personnel.

25X1X4 D., E., and F. The greatest benefit was derived from the portions of the trip in [redacted]. The reasons for this were: (1) I was allowed to contact [redacted] and others familiar with the areas; (2) I traveled in company with persons interested in the same problems; (3) I traveled by car most of the way. The trip through [redacted] was somewhat less valuable than through the other two countries because I was traveling alone and had few contacts with local persons.

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